



State Representative Livvy R. Floren

Dear Friends,

The 2006 legislative session was a beneficial one for Greenwich and Stamford.

This year's transportation act, which I cosponsored, authorizes \$2.3 billion in bonding for projects of importance to our district. They include: rehabilitating and acquiring more commuter rail passenger coaches; constructing or expanding stations in Stamford and Bridgeport to accommodate rail service and at least one other mode of transportation; expanding the Bridgeport Intermodal Facility to support high speed ferry service; and highway and traffic flow improvements on I-95.

Another act I cosponsored helped keep Greenwich Safe Rides operating by exempting teenagers under 18 who volunteer for the program from a state law that prohibits them from driving between midnight and 5 a.m.

Annual state grant totals for Greenwich and Stamford also are up from last year, including funding for road maintenance and local schools.

Supplemental special education grants for local school districts also were authorized, including \$358,603 for Greenwich and \$288,059 for Stamford.

Other grants were approved for projects in the 149th District, including:

- \$323,207 for an addition and upgrades to the Byram-Shubert Library.
- \$67,500 for various improvements and upgrades at the J. M. Wright Vocational Technical School in Stamford.
- \$500,000 for the renovation of the Greenwich Boys and Girls Club.

Thank you for the honor and privilege of representing you at our state legislature in Hartford.

Sincerely,

Livvy R. Floren



Rep. Floren joins Reps Lile R. Gibbons and Claudia "Dolly" Powers on Opening Day at the state House of Representatives earlier this year.

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State Representative
LIVVY R. FLOREN
Proudly Serving the 149th District
Greenwich ★ Stamford



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2006 LEGISLATIVE REPORT



State Representative
LIVVY R. FLOREN
Proudly Serving the 149th District
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Rep. Floren debates a bill on the floor of the state House of Representatives during the 2006 legislative session.

Protecting Your Interests

During the 2006 session, as always, I worked on behalf of the 149th District's families, children, seniors and taxpayers. I supported measures to spur economic growth, create jobs, ease traffic congestion, preserve the environment, and protect consumers.

Supporting Manufacturing

Connecticut manufacturers are struggling to remain competitive with their out-of-state counterparts. To help level the playing field, I cosponsored a law that exempts machinery and equipment from the property tax to strengthen our manufacturing sector and preserve and create thousands of jobs.

Encouraging Film Production in CT

To underscore the state's commitment to encouraging movie and digital media production in Connecticut, I cosponsored an act requiring the Commission on Culture and Tourism to implement new film and digital media tax credits and promote movie and digital media production and post-production in the state.

Fostering Technological Innovation

I supported legislation to promote research in the growing field of nanotechnology, a branch of engineering that deals with extremely small electronic circuits and mechanical devices designed and manufactured at the molecular level.

Nurturing Microbusinesses and New Companies

Under an act I cosponsored, the state will provide matching financial assistance for micro-businesses that receive funding through two federal programs, and venture capital for newly-established or expanding businesses that are in the early stages of developing new products and processes.

Office of the Business Advocate

An Office of the Business Advocate was established under a law I cosponsored. The office will contact micro and small businesses that could benefit from business assistance programs, provide information about the programs, and help businesses access them.

Recruiting the Best and the Brightest

I cosponsored an act that establishes a program to recruit eminent faculty and their research staff to the University of Connecticut and creates grant programs to repay student loans for engineers and people who hold specific doctoral degrees.



Juliana Simone, Republican assistant clerk of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, and her son, Everett, join Rep. Floren on the floor of the House on "Bring Your Child to Work Day."



Rep. Floren and Rep. Bob Farr, R-West Hartford, discuss legislation awaiting action by the state House of Representatives of importance to both of their districts.

Encroachment on Open Space Land

To help preserve undeveloped acreage in Connecticut, I cosponsored an act that prohibits anyone from encroaching on open space land owned by the state or a nonprofit land conservation organization without permission or legal authorization.

Protecting Long Island Sound

I voted for a law to encourage municipal wastewater treatment plants and private sector entities to reduce the amount of nitrogen they discharge into Long Island Sound.

Breast Cancer Screening

I supported a law to require health insurers to provide added coverage for breast cancer screening if a woman is believed to be at increased risk for breast cancer because of family history, her prior breast cancer history, or other indications determined by her physician.



Rep. Floren, Rep. Claudia "Dolly" Powers, and Rep. Lile Gibbons participate in the Breast Cancer Alliance's 2006 "Walk for the Cure" in Greenwich in May.

Supporting Children with Cancer

I cosponsored an act requiring health insurers and the HUSKY Plan to cover testing ordered by physicians for children with cancer to assess the extent to which chemotherapy or radiation treatment has caused cognitive or developmental problems.

Addressing Students' Physical Health Needs

Boards of education are allowed to establish comprehensive, coordinated plans to address their students' physical health needs under a law I cosponsored. School boards can implement their plans by the 2007 -2008 school year.

Property Tax Relief for Seniors

Municipalities will be allowed to freeze property taxes for certain elderly persons under an act I cosponsored. To be eligible for the benefit, homeowners or their spouses must be age 70 or older, have lived in the state for at least one year, and meet the same income limits that apply to the existing state-reimbursed "circuit breaker" program.

Honoring Our War Dead

Under a new law I supported, both the state and national flags will be flown at half-staff (whenever the governor orders the state flag to be flown at half-staff) for the same amount of time to honor members of the armed services who die in the line of duty.

State Budget

I opposed the \$16 billion 2006 - 07 budget. It failed to repeal the tax on estates valued above \$2 million. The tax has encouraged many Fairfield County residents - especially those in the financial services industry - to leave Connecticut and move to states that do not have it or which tax estates at significantly lower rates. It did not repeal the car tax, which would have provided significant tax relief to Greenwich and Stamford residents. The budget exceeded the governor's original proposal by \$16 million and did not provide comprehensive business tax relief that would have strengthened the economy and created more jobs for the people of Connecticut.



Representative Floren and veterans from American Legion Post 29 get together on Memorial Day in Greenwich.